



**State of New Jersey**  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
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**VETERANS AFFAIRS BULLETIN**  
**No. 5-07**

**6 August 2007**

**NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOMES**  
**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

1. **Reference.** N.J.S.A. 52:13D-16b (COIL).
2. **Purpose.** To reinforce the guidance provided by the New Jersey Conflict of Interest Law (COIL) as it pertains to the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Homes (VMHs).
3. A Power of Attorney (POA) is a written instrument by which one person (called the "principal") authorizes another person (called the "attorney-in-fact") to act on behalf of the principal, as the principal's agent or attorney. The POA may be for a definite, specific act, or it may be general in nature. The terms of the written POA may specify when the POA will expire. If not, the POA usually expires when the person granting it dies.
4. The New Jersey COIL prohibits a state employee from agreeing "...to represent, appear for, or negotiate on behalf of, any person or party other than the state in connection with any...matter before any state agency." Employee service as a POA for a resident would constitute an impermissible "outside activity." All employees must be advised that acting as the POA for a resident violates New Jersey's COIL, and all employees are forbidden from representing a resident outside the scope of their VMH job description.
5. The VMHs will ensure that applicants to the VMH are encouraged and provided an opportunity to execute, at the time of admission or before, a POA and a Living Will in writing. Furthermore, the VMHs will recommend and encourage all residents to maintain a POA and a Living Will on file with the VMH.
6. Questions or inquiries concerning this bulletin should be addressed to BG Frank R. Carlini, Director, Division of Veterans Healthcare Services at 609-530-6766 or e-mail [Frank.Carlini@njdmava.state.nj.us](mailto:Frank.Carlini@njdmava.state.nj.us).

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